

## **PARTITIONING A NETWORK ELEMENT INTO MULTIPLE VIRTUAL NETWORK ELEMENTS**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Techniques for partitioning a network element into multiple virtual network elements are provided. Resources of the network element are allocated to the virtual network elements and a virtual network element manager manages the execution of the virtual network  
10 elements. The virtual network elements allow the network element to conceptually function and be customized as distinct network elements.